



CDSS
WILL LIGHTBOURNE
DIRECTOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA—HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES
744 P Street • Sacramento, CA 95814 • www.cdss.ca.gov



EDMUND G. BROWN JR.
GOVERNOR

November 5, 2018

ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE (ACIN) NO. I-75-18

TO: ALL COUNTY WELFARE DIRECTORS
ALL COUNTY WELFARE-TO-WORK COORDINATORS
ALL CALWORKS PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL CALFRESH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS
ALL REFUGEE PROGRAM COORDINATORS
ALL COUNTY CHILD CARE COORDINATORS
ALL TRIBAL TANF ADMINISTRATORS
ALL CONSORTIA PROJECT MANAGERS

SUBJECT: 2018 EARNED INCOME TAX CREDIT (EITC) OUTREACH
PUBLICATIONS

REFERENCE: [WELFARE AND INSTITUTIONS CODE \(WIC\) SECTION 11322.5;](#) [ALL COUNTY LETTERS \(ACL\) 17-120, ACL 15-87, ACL 13-46, ACL 11-13, ACL 11-13E; ALL COUNTY INFORMATION NOTICE \(ACIN\) I-85-16; MANUAL OF POLICY AND PROCEDURES \(MPP\)](#) [SECTION 44-101\(I\)\(SAR\)\(1\), MPP SECTION 44-111.3\(I\), MPP SECTION 44-111.61\(I\) AND MPP SECTION 42-213.518](#)

The purpose of this ACIN is to notify County Welfare Departments (CWDs) that the EITC outreach publications, Pub 428 and 429, have been revised for the tax year 2018. The federal and state EITC income limits and maximum credit amounts have increased.

With support from Governor Brown, the California State Budget 2018-19 raises the California EITC (CalEITC) income ranges equivalent to the state minimum wage of \$12 per hour effective in January 2019, to help more workers qualify for the state credit, and expands the state credit requirements to support additional working Californians. For the 2018 tax year, CalEITC eligibility rules are extended to California workers between the ages of 18 and 24 and over age 65 to claim the state credit. Under the current EITC eligibility for both federal and state credits, qualified tax filers need to be at least age 25

but under age 65. However, the new CalEITC rules benefit younger and older working adults that previously would not have qualified for the state credit.

Tax Filers	State	Federal
Age 18 to 14*	✓	
Over age 65*	✓	
Age 25 to under age 65	✓	✓
Claiming EITC in previous years	✓	✓
EITC Claim Forms	FTB 3514	Schedule EIC

*Effective for the 2018 tax year.

California tax filers may qualify for either state or federal credits, or both depending on their income, age, and number of children, if any. The state and federal EITCs have the same general eligibility rules:

- Must have earned income and adjusted gross income within certain limits, but must be at least \$1;
- Meet certain [basic rules](#) (e.g., social security number, filing status, etc.);
- Must meet qualifying child rules, if any dependent children claimed; and
- Must live in California (for CalEITC) or in the U.S. for more than half the tax year.

Please visit [CalEITC website](#) for the state credit qualifications or contact the Franchise Tax Board (FTB) at 800-852-5711. For federal EITC qualifications, tax filers can visit the [EITC webpage](#) or contact the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by phone at 800-829-1040 for assistance.

Since California EITC (CalEITC) was established in 2015, the program continues its momentum in getting tax credits to qualified working individuals in California. The Franchise Tax Board (FTB) reported that as of July 31, 2018, there were 1.4 million state credits filed with a total of \$333 million CalEITC claimed. The number of EITC filings have increased 286% from last year as the result of the CalEITC expansion to allow self-employed workers to file for the state credit and higher CalEITC income limits.

As a reminder, the EITC refunds are not counted as income for those qualified families and individuals who are receiving or who are eligible for CalWORKs, CalFresh, and/or Medi-Cal benefits. The CWDs must exempt both federal and state EITC payments and refund payments from resource consideration for CalWORKs and CalFresh applicants and recipients for 12 months, starting with the month that the payment is received.

EITC OUTREACH AND PUBLICATIONS

The 2018-19 state budget allocated \$10 million to the FTB for the purpose of assisting community-based outreach efforts to promote the CalEITC and supporting organizations that provide free tax preparation services. The Department of Community

Services and Development (CSD) is partnering with FTB to administer funds under two types of grant programs. The ongoing strategic collaboration between government and local community agencies is crucial to maximize CalEITC outreach efforts and tax preparation assistance to our diverse communities, including hard-to-reach groups. For further information on these grant programs, you may go to the [CSD Webpage](#).

The FTB continues to develop its CalEITC website and EITC outreach materials that are accessible to various communities in multiple languages. The [FTB website](#) is available in Spanish, Mandarin, and Vietnamese. EITC materials such as brochures, postcards, posters, fact sheets, and toolkits are available for ordering at the [FTB's Resources Webpage: Helpful Materials](#).

Additionally, CDSS has updated the EITC Pub 428 and 429 to include both federal and state EITC information for the 2018 tax year in English and Spanish. These publications will also be made available in additional languages such as Chinese, Russian, and Vietnamese. The EITC Pub 428 is in a Z-fold brochure format and the EITC Pub 429 is in a one-page flyer format.

ADDITIONAL OUTREACH EFFORTS

In 2018, the CDSS CalFresh Program worked with the California Policy Lab, a research center at UC Berkeley, to implement an outreach effort pilot project to identify and communicate with low-income individuals working, receiving CalFresh, and likely eligible for the EITC. In the first year of the pilot project, CDSS CalFresh and the California Policy Lab partnered with two counties, Sacramento and San Diego, and identified approximately 40,000 individuals enrolled in CalFresh in these counties whose earnings and household composition suggested they were likely eligible for the EITC. A random selection of half of these households received a series of personalized text messages about their potential eligibility for the EITC, including information about their estimated credit amount. The messages encouraged households to file a return, if they had not already, and provided additional information about how they could file online or at a local, volunteer-run tax assistance site. The CDSS is currently working to evaluate the effect of this outreach and to partner with additional counties in 2019.

CAMERA-READY COPIES AND TRANSLATIONS

For a camera-ready copy in English, contact the [CDSS Forms Management Unit](#). If your office has internet access, you may obtain these forms from the [CDSS Webpage: Forms Listed by Program](#).

When all translations are completed per MPP Section [21-115.2](#), they are posted on an on-going basis on the CDSS webpage. Copies of the translated forms can be obtained at [Translated Forms and Publications](#).

For questions on translated materials, please contact the CDSS Language Services at (916) 651-8876. Until translations are available, recipients who have elected to receive

materials in languages other than English should be sent the English version of the form or notice along with the [GEN 1365 - Notice of Language Services](#) and a local contact number.

The CWDs shall ensure that effective bilingual services are provided. This requirement may be met through utilization of paid interpreters, qualified bilingual employees and qualified employees of other agencies or community resources. These services shall be provided free of charge to the applicant/recipient. In the event that CDSS does not provide translations of a form, it is the CWD's responsibility to provide interpreter services if an applicant or recipient requests them. More information regarding translations can be found in MPP Section [21-115.2](#).

This ACIN and other County letters and notices can be obtained at the [CDSS Webpage: Letters and Notices](#).

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact the CalWORKs Eligibility Bureau at (916) 654-1322.

Sincerely,

Original Document Signed By:

KIM JOHNSON
Deputy Director
Family Engagement and Empowerment Division

Attachments

Claim Your 2018 State and Federal Credits



IT'S YOUR MONEY You Earned It!

THE STATE AND FEDERAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDITS (EITCs) are special tax breaks for people who work full- or part-time. This means extra cash in your pocket. **If you have work income, you can file your returns and claim your EITC refunds, even if you don't owe any income tax.** You can also file amended returns for three years back if you did not claim your EITC or Child Tax Credit (CTC) in prior years. There is no late filing penalty if you do not owe any tax in the prior year.

CALIFORNIA EITC (CalEITC) requires filing of your state tax return (form 540 2EZ or 540 and a FTB 3514) and having wages, self-employment income or adjusted gross income. **For the 2018 tax year, working individuals over the age of 18 now qualify for the state credit.**

2018 CalEITC Income Limits

Number of Qualifying Children	State EITC Income Limits	State EITC Maximum Credits
None	\$16,750	\$232
1	\$24,950	\$1,554
2	\$24,950	\$2,559
3 or more	\$24,950	\$2,879

FEDERAL EITC requires filing of your federal tax return (form 1040EZ, 1040 or 1040A and as needed, the Schedule Earned Income Credit). Tax filers must be at least 25 years old, but under 65 years old at the end of the tax year.

2018 Federal EITC Income Limits

Number of Qualifying Children	Single, Head of Household or Widowed	Married Filing Jointly	Federal EITC Maximum Credits
None	\$15,270	\$20,950	\$519
1	\$40,320	\$46,010	\$3,461
2	\$45,802	\$51,492	\$5,716
3 or more	\$49,194	\$54,884	\$6,431

The EITC refunds are not counted as income when your CalWORKs, CalFresh or Medi-Cal benefits are calculated. Ask your eligibility worker for more details.

CLAIMING YOUR EITC IS EASY!

Just file your state and/or federal tax returns. Be sure to check both state (<http://caleitc4me.org>) and federal (<https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit>) eligibility requirements.

The Child Tax Credit (CTC)

is for families with earned income. Each family may get up to \$1,000 for each qualifying child under the age of 17. See your tax instructions and get Form 1040 or 1040A and Schedule 8812.

GET FREE TAX HELP

- CalFile for filing state taxes online at Franchise Tax Board: (800) 852-5711 <https://www.ftb.ca.gov/online/calfile/>
- CalEITC for the EITC calculator tool online: <http://caleitc4me.org/earn-it/>
- EITC Assistant through the Internal Revenue Service: (800) 829-1040 <https://www.irs.gov/>
- Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) locations: (800) 906-9887 www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/vita/
- American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Tax Aide Program: (888) 227-7669 <https://www.aarp.org/>
- My Free Taxes for filing federal and state tax returns online: <https://MyFreeTaxes.org>



Reclame sus créditos estatales y federales del 2018



ES SU DINERO ¡Usted se lo ganó!

LOS CRÉDITOS EN LOS IMPUESTOS ESTATALES Y FEDERALES POR INGRESO DEL TRABAJO (EITC) son créditos especiales en los impuestos para las personas que trabajan tiempo completo o parcial. **Si tiene ingresos de trabajo, puede presentar sus declaraciones y reclamar sus reembolsos de EITC, aunque no deba impuestos por ingresos.**

También puede presentar declaraciones modificadas por tres años anteriores si no reclamó su EITC o crédito en los impuestos por niños (CTC) en años anteriores. No hay cargo por demora si no debe impuestos en el año anterior.



EL EITC DE CALIFORNIA (CalEITC) requiere que presente su declaración estatal de impuestos (formulario 540 2EZ o 540 y un FTB 3514) y que tenga ingresos ganados, ingresos de empleo por cuenta propia, o ingreso bruto ajustado. **Para el año fiscal 2018, las personas mayores de 18 años que trabajan ahora califican para el crédito estatal.**

Límites de ingresos CalEITC 2018

Número de niños que califican	Límite de ingresos para el EITC estatal	Crédito máximo del EITC estatal
Ninguno	\$16,750	\$232
1	\$24,950	\$1,554
2	\$24,950	\$2,559
3 o más	\$24,950	\$2,879

EL EITC FEDERAL requiere que presente su declaración federal de impuestos (formulario 1040EZ, 1040 o 1040A y si es necesario, el formulario *Schedule Earned Income Credit*). Los contribuyentes deben tener al menos 25 años de edad, pero ser menores de 65 años al final del año fiscal.

Límites federales de ingresos EITC 2018

Número de niños que califican	Soltero, jefe de familia o viudo	Casado declarando en conjunto	Crédito máximo del EITC federal
Ninguno	\$15,270	\$20,950	\$519
1	\$40,320	\$46,010	\$3,461
2	\$45,802	\$51,492	\$5,716
3 o más	\$49,194	\$54,884	\$6,431

Los reembolsos de EITC no se cuentan como ingresos cuando calculan sus beneficios de CalWORKs, CalFresh o Medi-Cal. Consulte con su trabajador de elegibilidad para más detalles.

¡RECLAMAR SU EITC ES FÁCIL!
Solo presente su declaración de impuestos estatal o federal, o ambas. Asegúrese de revisar los requisitos de elegibilidad estatales (<http://caleitc4me.org>) y federales (<https://www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit>)

El crédito en impuestos por niños (CTC)

es para familias con ingresos ganados. Cada familia puede recibir hasta \$1,000 por cada niño menor de 17 años que califique. Vea las instrucciones para sus impuestos y obtenga los formularios 1040 o 1040A y el *Schedule 8812*.

RECIBA AYUDA GRATUITA CON LOS IMPUESTOS

- *CalFile* para presentar los impuestos estatales en línea en el *Franchise Tax Board*: (800) 852-5711 <https://www.ftb.ca.gov/online/calfile/>
- CalEITC para la herramienta de calculadora de EITC en línea: <http://caleitc4me.org/earn-it/>
- Asistente del EITC por medio del *Internal Revenue Service*: (800) 829-1040 <https://www.irs.gov/>
- Lugares con asistencia de voluntarios para los impuestos (VITA): (V800) 906-9887 www.ftb.ca.gov/individuals/vita/
- Programa de asistencia con los impuestos de la Asociación Americana de Personas Jubiladas (AARP): (888) 227-7669 <https://www.aarp.org/>
- *My Free Taxes* para la declaración de impuestos federales y estatales en línea: <https://MyFreeTaxes.org>

Claim Your 2018 State and Federal Credits

IT'S YOUR MONEY!



YOU EARNED IT!

THE STATE AND FEDERAL EARNED INCOME TAX CREDITS (EITCs) are special tax breaks for people who work full- or part-time. This means extra cash in your pocket. **If you have work income, you can file your returns and claims your EITC refunds, even if you don't owe any income tax.** You can also file amended returns for three years back if you did not claim your EITC or Child Tax Credit (CTC) in prior years. There is no late filing penalty if you do not owe any tax in the year prior.

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State of California, Health and Human Services Agency,
Department of Social Services, PUB 429 (Eng/Sp) Rev. 10/18



Reclame sus créditos estatales y federales 2018

¡ES SU DINERO!



¡USTED SE LO GANÓ!

LOS CRÉDITOS EN LOS IMPUESTOS ESTATALES Y FEDERALES POR INGRESO DEL TRABAJO (EITC) son créditos especiales para personas que trabajan tiempo completo o parcial. Esto significa dinero extra en su bolsillo. **Si tiene ingresos de trabajo, puede presentar sus declaraciones y reclamar sus reembolsos de EITC, aunque no deba impuestos por ingresos.** También puede presentar declaraciones modificadas pro tres años anteriores si no reclamó su EITC o crédito de impuestos por niños (CTC) en el año anterior. No hay cargo por demora si no debe impuestos en el año anterior.

EL EITC DE CALIFORNIA (CalEITC) requiere que presente su declaración de impuestos estatal (formulario 540 2EZ o 540 y un FTB 3514) y que tenga ingresos, ingresos de empleo por cuenta propia, o ingreso bruto ajustado. **Para el año fiscal 2018, las personas mayores de 18 años que trabajan ahora califican para el crédito estatal.**

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¡ES FÁCIL RECLAMAR SU EITC!

Sólo presente su declaración de impuestos estatal o federal. Asegúrese de revisar los requisitos de elegibilidad estatales (<http://caleitc4me.org>) y federales (www.irs.gov/credits-deductions/individuals/earned-income-tax-credit).

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es para familias con ingresos ganados. Cada familia puede recibir hasta \$1,000 por cada niño menor de 17 años que califique. Vea las instrucciones para sus impuestos y obtenga los formularios 1040 o 1040A y el *Schedule 8812*.

Los reembolsos de EITC no se cuentan como ingresos cuando calculan sus beneficios de CalWORKs, CalFresh o Medi-Cal. Consulte con su trabajador de elegibilidad para más detalles.

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